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USD Vista

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TheUSDVISTA

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Torero throws no-hitter

USD pitcher Madison Earnshaw throws first no-hitter in 4 years



Sophomore pitcher Madison Earnshaw threw seven shut-out innings for the Toreros against Long Island University.

Chris Spiering
Sports Editor

In a historic afternoon for the Toreros, USD sophomore pitcher Madison Earnshaw tossed seven hitless-innings in route to the Toreros' 3-0 victory against Long Island University (LIU). The right hander earned her first win of the season as USD advanced to 3-5 on the season.

San Diego started the Saturday afternoon playing Utah State as a part of a doubleheader in the Golden State Classic Tournament in Lake Elsinore. The Toreros were on the wrong

side of dominant pitching in game one, as Aggies starting pitcher Kapri Toone threw a no-hitter in their 8-0 shutout. USD couldn't advance a runner past first base and the Aggies closed out the game in the fifth inning.

History was in the making for game two though, as the Toreros battled against the LIU Sharks. The game remained scoreless through the sixth inning as both teams' pitchers brought their A-game. USD left runners on base in the third and fourth inning but couldn't get them home.

San Diego took the lead in the seventh as junior pitcher

Halle Kyler executed a perfect bunt to score first-year catcher Elisa Princic, making the score 1-0. Later in the inning, first-year outfielder Savannah Alarcon knocked in two more runs with a single up the middle, making the score 3-0.

Alarcon went 1-3 at the plate and had two RBIs in the game. Kyler finished the day going 2-3 and got the scoring started for the Toreros.

The story of the game was the Toreros' starting pitcher. Earnshaw came back out in the bottom of the seventh inning to close out the game for USD. She

forced three straight ground ball outs to close out the game and earned her first career no-hitter — the first for the Toreros since 2016.

Earnshaw explained how she prepared to put her name in the record books.

"When I came out to throw, I wasn't really thinking anything," Earnshaw said. "I was focusing on hitting my spots and letting my defense work."

Earnshaw struck out two batters and walked only one. In the 22 batters she faced, she forced 12 groundouts and six fly

[See Softball, Page 12](#)

A local spring break

Lizzy Jennings
A & C Editor

For many, spring break is synonymous with major expenses and headaches, but it doesn't always have to be that way. Especially for students here in San Diego, there are an abundance of options for alternative spring break plans that are only a day trip away. Additionally, many of these spring break options can be done affordably, which is helpful for the tight budgets of college students.

Joshua Tree

Joshua Tree National Park is a desert haven in the middle of Southern California just a few hours east of San Diego. Home to great hiking trails, camping spots and an abundance of natural beauty, this spot can either be a day trip, or a week-long excursion.

Senior Vanessa Grasso raves about her own Joshua Tree trip that she took last semester, sharing an Airbnb with friends to keep the trip from getting costly.

"It was a nice getaway from San Diego," Grasso said. "We got to go on cool hikes and there were a lot of local art shops and restaurants to go to." Walk-in camp spots are available at a first-come, first-served basis, but it may be better to plan in advance. Reserved camping spots can also fill up, especially during peak-visitor season, and usually need to be reserved a few weeks in advance.

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Parking struggles continue on campus

Construction creates difficult parking situations for commuting campus members

Mikaela Foehr
News Editor

Some students may know the feeling — it is 9:57 a.m. on a Monday morning, pulling into campus just before your 10:10 a.m. class, heading to the Valley Parking Structure with your parking permit proudly displayed, only to find that there are no available spots.

This has been junior Justin Palacios's experience more than once, which is why he now wakes up at 6 a.m., just so he can arrive on campus in time to get a parking spot. However, Palacios is not alone in this struggle to park.

Parking spots on campus are getting even scarcer. With the progression of campus construction, an increasing

amount of parking areas are being used as staging sites for the tools and materials needed to complete the ambitious revamp of USD's campus. This has resulted in increased frustration and more elaborate parking strategies among the students and faculty who commute to campus.

The most recent blow to parking spaces is the Law School lot, which is projected to be closed until 2022 according to the Department of Parking Services' website. Instead of cars, this lot will be filled with temporary office spaces for faculty who traditionally reside in Camino and Founders Halls. These temporary spaces are currently being built to be used in the fall of 2020.

Although the majority of the Law lot is filled with construction,

there are some spots remaining. However, these spots are exclusively reserved for ADA parking, and a few law reserved permit holders. On the Parking Services website, they recommend law permit holders to park in the South Law lot, or in "surrounding areas." This means that law permit holders can stake claim to spaces not traditionally reserved by their parking permits, adding pressure to campus members who have permits to park in nearby areas.

The closure of traditional parking spaces has also prompted thought-out strategies for securing parking spaces, such as waiting out the time limit on designated "carpool" spaces. USD offers "carpool permits" to students or faculty who drive

[See Parking, Page 3](#)



'No Parking' sign posted outside of the Law School lot.

Anna Behrens/The USD Vista

Ballot measures in San Diego
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Editorial: Barr-ing the DOJ
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Multicultural sorority
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A bite of San Diego: Vegan
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Torero baseball preview
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NEWS

ASG makes amends

Dr. Avery apologizes to ASG for her role in the showing of an insensitive video

Mikaela Foehr
News Editor

In light of the tense atmosphere at the Associated Student Government (ASG) senate meeting following the Feb.1 leadership training incident, in which a video was shown which made some students visibly uncomfortable, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Cynthia Avery, Ed.D. made the decision to address the senate. Avery read a prepared statement and answered questions from senators and members of the public during her allotted senate agenda time.

Avery was there to address her role in one specific portion of the leadership training session for ASG and Torero Program Board (TPB) student leaders. Nicholas Twohig, a graduate assistant for TPB, gave a presentation on communicating across differences. During the

presentation, he elected to show a video that was taken to be racially insensitive, particularly toward black students. In the aftermath of the training, students in ASG and TPB, as well as members of the public, were upset by the decision to show the video,

“I stand before you today having recognized that my white silence and complacency when I did not tell (Twohig) unequivocally that he could not use that video due to its tokenization and perpetuation of harm, in turn harmed you.”

and concerned about why the video was allowed to be shown. Since Avery was the advisor who oversaw the training at large, and met with Twohig before his presentation was finalized, she was asked to address the senate during the following meeting.

Avery’s statement consisted of

a description of her and Nicholas Twohig’s interactions before the training, an explanation of her assumption that Twohig would provide a trigger warning and cut out the most triggering aspects of the video, apologies to all the students who felt harmed by the

video, and a pledge to continue learning.

“I stand before you today having recognized that my white silence and complacency when I did not tell (Twohig) unequivocally that he could not use that video due to its tokenization and perpetuation of

harm, in turn harmed you,” Avery said.

Students in both the senate and audience seemed appreciative that she took the time to make the statement. They were also prepared with recommendations for how Avery could attempt

and senate that the university implement mandatory bias training for faculty, but especially university administrators.

Avery pledged to take all the recommendations forward with her and communicate them to her higher ups. This was seconded by Marion Chavarria Rivera, the President of ASG, who has a scheduled meeting with USD President James T. Harris III Ed.D. in the near future.

“I am meeting with President Harris later in March, and I want you all to know that I will be bringing these things to him, and other administrators, and holding them to them,” Chavarria Rivera said.

Nicholas Twohig, the graduate assistant who gave the presentation that sparked this controversy, will no longer be working as a graduate assistant for the Torero Program Board (TPB) according to the statement made by Avery.

- Cynthia Avery

Gearing up for voting day

State and county-wide ballot measures focus on public school education

Althea Ulin
Asst. News Editor

March 3 marks the beginning of election season in San Diego with local, state, and national matters on the ballots for voters covering a variety of issues and concerns ranging from sales tax to presidential nominees. Most of the local ballots in San Diego are applicable by district, housing and school zones, affected by income and mortgage taxes.

State

California has one state-wide ballot measure for the March 3 vote. The proposition focuses on public school bonds.

Prop 13

This would approve billions of dollars in bonds to be used to renovate public schools through using commercial property taxes in school district funding. This proposition has a history of controversy in the state of California as it addresses a ballot

initiative that was passed in 1978. This would increase taxes on industrial commercial properties while keeping the same subsidies for homeowners and small, local businesses. Proposition 13 is largely supported by Californians and is popular among national politicians, all Democrats, on the use of property taxes from commercial lots to be used to upgrade the infrastructure of the California public school network.

Yes on Prop 13: authorizes \$15 billion in general obligation bonds (public projects) to school and college facilities. The breakdown has \$9 billion to preschool through 12th grade, \$4 billion to universities, and \$2 billion to community colleges.

No on Prop 13: denies any of these bonds.

Potential effects of Prop 13: As a private school, the state funding affected by this issue will not impact the infrastructure or spending at USD. However,

surrounding schools including SDSU, UCSD, and other regional junior colleges will see a fluctuation in their funding sources, from commercial businesses throughout downtown, San Diego county, and along the coast. As a largely commercialized city, San Diego could see a large influx of budget to their public schools and create more opportunities for San Diego natives and public college students.

Local

Seven of the 17 ballot measures originating in San Diego County have to do with primary school districts through the greater San Diego area. These voting ballots are specific to the districts of constituents who are looking to pass laws specific to their school systems.

Many of the other local ballots are specific to cities within San Diego County regarding infrastructure, sales taxes, animal retail, and homelessness.

POLLING PLACES NEAR YOU

Places to vote near popular student living areas

LINDA VISTA

Degheri Alumni Center
5998 Alcala Park Way,
San Diego, CA 92110

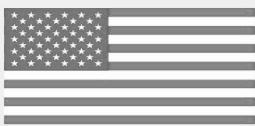


MISSION BEACH

Compass Beach Homes
2888 Mission Boulevard,
San Diego, CA 92109

PACIFIC BEACH

Pacific Beach Women's Club
1721 Hornblend St,
San Diego, CA 92109



OCEAN BEACH

Bethany Lutheran Church
2051 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard,
San Diego, CA 92107

COLLEGE HEIGHTS

San Diego County Election Office
5600 Overland Ave
San Diego, CA 92123



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Suspicious fires near USD

At least three fires set in Linda Vista and Morena neighborhoods Sunday night

Celina Tebor
Associate Editor

The San Diego Police Department is investigating at least three suspicious fires in the neighborhoods of Linda Vista and Morena that occurred Sunday night. The fires occurred close to the University of San Diego in neighborhoods populated with USD students.

According to SDPD, the fires consisted of a dumpster fire, a trash can on fire next to a house, and a brush fire by a trolley station.

The fires occurred all within walking distance of each other and were all reported in a span of 19 minutes around 11 p.m.

neighborhood and witnessed the dumpster fire Sunday night.

Francis had taken her dog outside around 11 p.m. to use the bathroom, and noticed the fire.

“I was just looking to that way and just gazing and I saw the fire and I was like, that’s not supposed to be there,” Francis said. “I went in and told Jeff, and we both looked out the window, and he saw the fire and he called 911.”

Francis stayed outside for several minutes surveying the scene, but saw no one near the dumpster.

“It was a big fire,” Francis said. “The flames were huge, and there were way more cars (near the dumpster).”



A dumpster on the corner of Riley Street and Eureka Street that was burned Sunday night.

Celina Tebor/The USD Vista

“At the time I thought it was hilarious because it seemed so ridiculous, but now it’s kind of scary hearing how many fires there were around Linda Vista.”

- Maya Ramirez

The dumpster fire started on Eureka and Riley Streets, where many USD students reside.

Jeffrey and Francis Prosser are two residents in the Linda Vista

The Prossers said the fire department arrived shortly after calling, and quickly put the fire out.

Senior Maya Ramirez

witnessed the aftermath of the same dumpster fire the Prossers saw. She lives in the apartment complex where the dumpster was set on fire. At first, she thought she had only smelled burning food before realizing what had happened.

“My roommate told me she was heating up something in our toaster oven, so I went downstairs to make sure it wasn’t burning,” Ramirez said. “I looked and it was

fine, and then two of my friends ran in my front door and told me there were firefighters here, and another one of my roommates ran down the stairs and said our dumpster was on fire. I looked in our parking lot and firefighters were hosing down our dumpster and telling people to stay back for their safety.”

Ramirez has worries about the dangers of and the intent behind the dumpster fire.

“At the time I thought it was hilarious because it seemed so ridiculous, but now it’s kind of scary hearing how many fires there were around Linda Vista,” Ramirez said. “Like, why our apartment?”

There were no injuries from the fires. The Metro Arson Strike Team was not available to verify whether the fires were started intentionally or whether they were connected.

Parking dwindles on campus

Students and faculty get creative to make finding a parking spot easier

Parking from Page 1

to school with others in their vehicle to try and promote more environmentally conscious forms of transportation. The carpool permits are handed out until 10 a.m., or until all the permits have been given, whichever comes first.

Amidst the parking scarcity, some students are now staking out these carpool spots until the 10 a.m. deadline. Shannon Daley, a junior who commutes to campus from Mission Beach, has run into this problem a few times.

“I think that carpool pass is a good idea, but it has happened a few times where I’ve gotten the pass and all the spots are already filled by people waiting for the clock to hit 10 a.m.,” Daley said. “I just don’t know what to do in those situations.”

The department of Parking Services asks that if anyone is violating the carpool permit rules to call them at 619-260-4518 and “(they) will send someone out to enforce the carpool spaces.”

Another strategy by

students and faculty is to simply arrive at campus early in the morning. Junior Justin Palacios abides by this tactic, although unenthusiastically.

“Since parking is so bad, I try to get here as early as possible,” Palacios said. “This normally means waking up at 6 a.m. for my 10 a.m. classes, which is not fun.”

Junior Jared Hebreo seconds the belief that parking tends to be available early in the morning, but doesn’t mind it too much.

“I’ve always been able to find parking in the morning, but I guess that is when having early classes pays off,” Hebreo said.

On top of the currently tight parking, campus community members are also upset by the current lack of labeled parking areas and \$85 increase (for students) in permit costs starting in the fall. Palacios, who already feels the parking system is confusing, is worried that it will be even harder to know where you can park come next fall.

“I’ve gotten tickets for parking

in the wrong areas even though I was very careful about not parking in spaces or areas clearly marked “reserved,” Palacios said. “If (parking services) aren’t clear on what permits work where when everything changes, I think a lot of people are going to be very confused.”

In light of the struggles some people are facing, some campus members choose to not park on campus at all. It is not uncommon to see members of faculty walking to the main campus from beyond the Alcalá Vista Apartments in the mornings. Mathematics professor Cameron Parker P.h.D, chooses to park off of campus for ease and enjoyment.

“I don’t park on campus because I like to not have to search around for a parking spot, know where one is going to be, and then have a nice walk in the beautiful San Diego sun,” Parker said.

Although getting extra steps in is good for health, some members of campus, like Daley

and Palacios, would just like to know they will be able to find an open and convenient spot in the morning. However, this task may become easier in the fall, when on-campus first years will no longer be allowed to have cars on campus.

Currently, Parking Services recommends that campus members “drive straight to the West Structure as there is always ample parking there” and also “recommend carpooling or taking alternate forms of transportation if possible”. They maintain that “there is a minimum of 400 spaces open at any given time”, indicating that although open spaces may be hard to find, they are there.

For updates on campus construction, visit the Department of Planning Design and Construction’s website. For information on parking, the Office of Parking Services is in Hahn University Center 102, and is open on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.



A ‘no parking’ sign posted near Loma Hall.

Anna Behreus/The USD Vista

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OPINION

Audrey Garrett
Cartoonist



So long, Philip Rivers

Tyler Pugmire
Asst. Sports Editor

As Philip Rivers mutually decided to part ways with the Los Angeles Chargers, San Diegans, and former fans of the San Diego Chargers, have seemingly lost all attachment to the new, young Los Angeles football squad. Philip Rivers was San Diego's quarterback. Philip Rivers was my quarterback.

Being a lifelong San Diego Chargers fan, Philip Rivers has been my favorite player since I was six years old. The memories of him in Qualcomm, now SDCCU Stadium, will be with me even when I am an old grandpa telling my grandkids about the players "back in my day." Rivers was a quarterback who loved the city of San Diego so much that he continued to live down here while the entire organization went up Interstate 5 to Los Angeles.

Rivers was the final piece of attachment to the Los Angeles Chargers for many of those from San Diego. After years of poor ownership from Dean Spanos, and a lack of ability to put out a consistently competitive football team, there is almost no reason for a San Diegan to remain a Chargers fan. But I digress.

Philip Rivers and Antonio Gates shaped football in San Diego for more than a decade together. Both have decided to stop playing for the now L.A. Chargers this past year.

Philip consistently won over the hearts of San Diegans while the team's home site was just down the street in Mission Valley. I can still remember the game he played with a torn ACL, the 228 straight starts without ever missing a game, the deep playoff run in 2006, the Rivers-to-Gates connection. The story of the San Diego Chargers cannot be told without detailing the career of future hall-of-famer Philip Rivers.

For San Diegans, a major reason that Philip Rivers won over this city was his ability to silence the Raiders fans that came down when Oakland visited the Chargers, especially in December. Philip Rivers was an absolute spectacle to watch in the final month of the year, carrying the Chargers to a 39-19 record in December games from 2006 to 2018, and having multiple comeback victories against the Raiders in the meantime.

For the Chargers and Rivers to break up, it makes some sense. The quarterback is getting old and Los Angeles has a young football team. They now have multiple options: either draft a young QB like Justin Herbert or potentially get a big-name signing in Tom Brady (and win over some bandwagoners from Orange County). Rivers will explore

See Rivers, Page 5

Barr-ing the rule of law

Attorney General Barr breaks DOJ's independence from President

Eric Boose
Opinion Editor

The attorney general is not the president's lawyer. The attorney general is not even the White House's lawyer. According to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) themselves, the attorney general is "chief law enforcement officer of the Federal Government," and "represents the United States in legal matters generally and gives advice and opinions to the President and to the heads of the executive departments of the Government when so requested." The attorney general is then, in the simplest sense, the federal government's lawyer. In service of the rule of law — the idea that no American, not even the president, is above the law — the DOJ has long exercised a sort of independence from the rest of the executive branch.

However, there have been multiple occasions during William Barr's ongoing tenure as attorney general in which he has acted almost blatantly in the interest of the president's personal interest, the most recent being the DOJ's intervention in the sentencing of Trump ally Roger Stone.

Stone, a former Trump consultant, was recommended a sentence of seven to nine years in prison for lying to Congress, obstruction of justice, and witness tampering. Last week, President Trump tweeted that Stone's sentence was too harsh, saying, "This is a horrible and very unfair situation. The real crimes were

on the other side, as nothing happens to them. Cannot allow this miscarriage of justice!" Only hours after Trump's tweet, the DOJ released a memo calling the recommended sentence too harsh. Shortly after the memo's release, the president was back on Twitter, congratulating Barr for "taking charge of a case that was totally out of control and perhaps should not have been brought."

Is Trump's tweet an outright admission of pressuring the DOJ to help out a friend? Not exactly. Does it call into question the DOJ's historical independence from the rest of the executive branch? Sure. Did 2,000 former DOJ officials call for Barr's resignation over the weekend? Absolutely. In a letter made public on Sunday, the group — made up of officials from both Democratic and Republican administrations — wrote, "Barr's actions in doing the president's personal bidding unfortunately speak louder than his words. Those actions, and the damage they have done to the Department of Justice's reputation for integrity and the rule of law, require Mr. Barr to resign." The letter also urged current officials to "take appropriate action to uphold their oaths of office and defend nonpartisan, apolitical justice."

In defense of himself and his department, Barr expressed frustration at Trump's tweets, saying they make it "impossible" for him to do his job. While Barr insists that Trump has never directly asked him to interfere in a criminal case, he admitted that "to

have public statements and tweets made about the department, about our people ... about cases pending in the department, and about judges before whom we have cases, make it impossible for me to do my job and to assure the courts and the prosecutors in the department that we're doing our work with integrity."

However, as the former DOJ officials said, actions speak louder than words. It is also important to note that the president's tweets do not carry the force of law. In fact, they carry the same force as any other tweet — that is to say, none. The point is, Barr's implication that the president is somehow interfering with the DOJ or forcing the department's hand by tweeting should be taken with multiple grains of salt, especially considering that this is not the first time that Barr has meddled with the dispensation of justice in ways which benefitted Trump.

The chief example of such meddling comes from last spring's release of Special Counsel Robert Muller's report — the end of his investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. Barr famously withheld the full report from the public for multiple days, opting instead to release a four-page memo summarizing the report. That memo allowed Barr to frame the interpretation of the report's ambiguous language, especially Muller's conclusion that he could not exonerate the president of a charge of obstruction of justice.

The Guardian's David Smith says Barr's memo "misled the public" about the conclusions in the report. Following the report's release, former Washington Post columnist Ezra Klein tweeted, "Barr said this morning that Trump 'fully cooperated' with the investigation, That's just an outright lie, and Barr knew it."

While Barr very well could have framed a potentially damning report in a way that favored the president by his own volition, such a protection of the president does not fall within the attorney general's job description. Combine Barr's protectionist overreach with Trump's willingness, his enthusiasm even, for Barr to take such positions, and their combined behaviors can fairly be described as threatening the rule of law in this country.

The attorney general is not the president's lawyer. It is not, nor has it ever been, the job of the attorney general to interfere with criminal proceedings at the urging of the president. Nor has it ever been the job of the attorney general to withhold the findings of an investigation involving the president. Nor has it ever been the job of the attorney general to preface the release of those findings in a way which sheds a positive light on the president. For almost the entire history of the Department of Justice, there has been a bar between it and the rest of the executive branch. Now, things are different. Now, there is a Barr in the Department of Justice.

The views expressed in the editorial and op-ed sections are not necessarily those of The USD Vista staff, the University of San Diego, or its student body.

Rivers from Page 4
other destinations, namely the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the soon-to-be Las Vegas Raiders, or the Indianapolis Colts. The name sticking out among those three is most definitely the archrival Raiders.

Philip Rivers won over the hearts of San Diegans, while Dean Spanos took our hearts and sold them to the National Football League for a new stadium in a bigger city. The Chargers leaving San Diego took a toll on this city, leaving us with one major sports team, a professional rugby team, and minor-league teams such as the Gulls, Seals, and now San Diego Loyal SC. For San Diegans, sports are not what define our city, but we held our own for the Chargers. We showed up to the big

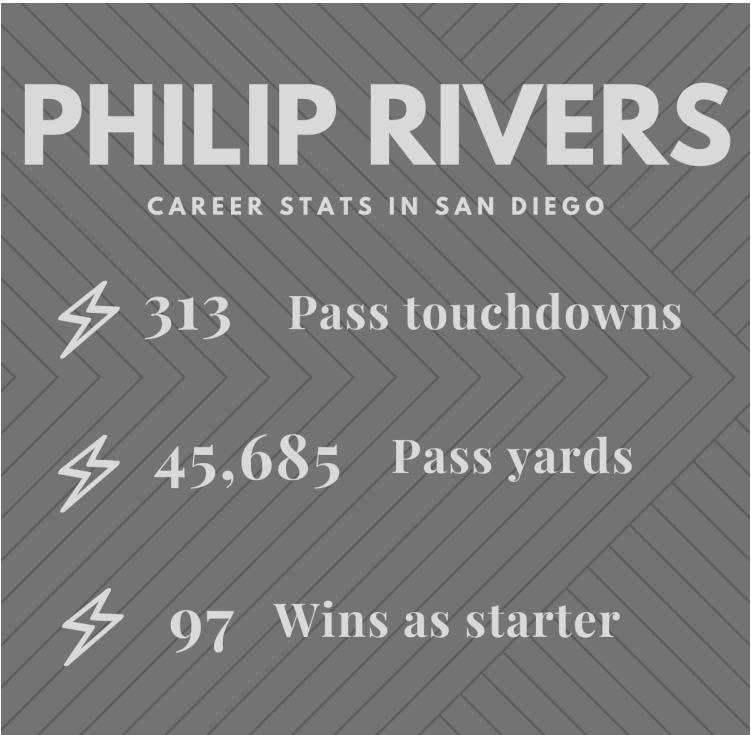
games, and I will never forget the roaring chants of the prolonged “Sannnn Diegooooo Super Chargers!” that were electric and fired up both the crowds and the players.

For me, it seems as though San Diego’s connection to sports falters more and more every day, and it is almost all due to the Chargers ditching us for Los Angeles. San Diego once was a place full of superstars with names like Philip Rivers, Antonio Gates, Ladanian Tomlinson, and even Trevor Hoffman on the Padres.

Philip Rivers was San Diego’s star. Philip Rivers was my star. His departure from the Chargers will weigh heavily on my heart for the remainder of the season and/or his career. From the dad-gummits to the trash talk to the

post-game interviews, Philip Rivers was always a San Diegan at heart. He cared about our city, and now that he has departed from the Chargers, there is almost no connection between the Chargers and San Diego except a distant history, a statement that would have been labeled as blasphemy just six short years ago.

The future hall of famer represented everything that San Diego is: eccentric, hard working, and never breaking. San Diego is so lucky to have experienced the incredible career that Philip gave to this city. The Chargers will not be the same without Sir Philip of House Rivers, and hopefully, San Diegans will remain with him at the very least throughout the rest of his career. Let us just hope he is not on the Raiders.



Is The Bachelor the problem?

Producers made Peter Weber’s season of The Bachelor the most dramatic one yet

Jennifer Mossuto
Copy Editor

I was never one of those people who watch The Bachelor. In all honesty, I thought it was a staged reality television show and I could not have cared less about watching 30-year-old men find a girlfriend.

But then everything changed. I watched Colton Underwood’s season of The Bachelor that aired in January of 2019. The first few episodes consisted of a constant cringing from me and my friends because of all the virginity jokes, but Colton stole my, alongside many others’, heart. The only girl Colton actually cared about tried to leave the show because it was too much for her to handle. But then he changed the entire process by instantly cancelling his last two dates. He left and went to her hotel room to get her back. No proposal. No newly-engaged tears. But they still ended up perfectly happy. I mean really, what’s better than watching two people fall in love over the course of three months? It’s like a romantic comedy that never ends plus a few routine catfights.

But this isn’t the point. The point is that this current season, with Peter Weber as the bachelor, is becoming as painful to watch as people anticipated due to the producers’ never-ending need for drama. The producers are the main source of all of the ridiculous events that take place on this show. As much as I was a diehard fan of Cassie and Colton’s relationship, there is always unnecessary drama and awkwardness that comes with watching the show. However, this season the producers have truly worked their hardest to give us the most awkward, annoying, and dramatic season yet.

At first, viewers were upset because we have yet another white, relatively wealthy bachelor who is older than all the girls. This is likely the producers’ fault and Peter can’t help who they bring on the show or how old they are

— Peter actually seems really nice. There are nice guys, and there are guys that are so nice that if you ran into them at Starbucks they’d probably spark up a casual conversation about the weather, or more realistically planes because that’s all Peter talks about. He seemed excited to be on the show and genuinely excited to find a wife (who can live with him

former Miss North Knoxville. There is Victoria Paul, who started off as America’s sweetheart nurse, holds the title of Miss Louisiana USA 2019. Madison Prewett, another frontrunner, competed in the 2014 Miss Alabama Teen USA pageant. Lastly, Alayah Benavidez, current Miss Texas USA, was sent home but magically reappeared for another dramatic



Celina Tebor/The USD Vista

in his parents’ house). Well, now that the season is reaching an end, I think it has been decided that this season was not as successful as expected.

Where did it go wrong? First — the girls. They all happen to be pageant queens. Kelsey Weier, known for her exploding champagne in the face scene, is Miss Iowa 2017. Then we have Hannah Ann Sluss, a clear frontrunner of the season, is

episode before going home, yet again. I’m not saying there is anything wrong with pageant queens. One thing is for sure, these girls are confident and know how to develop a connection with Peter. However, how is it possible that they found this many to come on the show? Is it because Peter fell in love with Hannah Brown (the last bachelorette) and she is Miss Alabama 2019? Well, if the shoe fits.

Our last four contestants are 22, two are 23, and 25 years old, with Peter being a mature 28 years old. This leads everyone, including Peter, to question if they are ready for marriage, because that is the show’s real intention besides providing lots of memes and SugarBearHair vitamin sponsors. However, Peter could be asked this same question, because he is certainly not acting like he’s ready either. For example, a few episodes ago, Madison Prewett told Peter she sees a future with him and that she wouldn’t still be there if she didn’t, and Peter said, “I’m glad you told me that” rather than a simple, “Me too.” Similarly, Kelley Flanagan, who recently went home, called Peter out for not being ready for marriage by rewarding the drama the girls have been starting.

Peter loves the drama. Actually, since I am just an average viewer and cannot prove that, I will say the producers are having a pretty good time controlling Peter and convincing him to let this unnecessary drama continue. He is so nice that he will go on a two-on-one date with the two most unlikeable girls of the season, and then send them both home with way more screen time than they deserved, just because the producers probably asked him to. For reference, a two on one is when he goes on one date with two girls and as you can guess, it never goes well.

It is also allegedly true that the producers suggested to one of the girls, Hannah Ann, to open a bottle of champagne with Peter. What they did not tell Hannah Ann, was that another girl, Kelsey Weier, brought a very special bottle that she wanted to open with Peter. And then Kelsey got mad, Hannah Ann cried and claimed that Kelsey bullied her, and the producers cheered as they claimed victory again. This scene is where we were provided with Kelsey’s famous line, “Me saying unkind words to you ... that is not bullying.”

Another famously

unnecessary moment of the season was when Victoria Fuller’s one-on-one with Peter led her to a concert where none other than her ex-boyfriend, Chase Rice, was performing. Better yet, Peter actually suggested that Chase play at their wedding.

It seems obvious that the girls are getting extremely tired of being controlled by the producers to create more drama for the show, rather than focusing on why they are really there — for Peter.

On another note, the theories of this season are truly the most outrageous, but actually plausible, ones I’ve heard in awhile. For starters, lots of viewers think that someone ends up pregnant at the end of this season. If you watch any clip of this season, you will find out why this is a theory. Peter is really running with the windmill joke from Hannah Brown’s season and it shows. If you don’t know, the windmill joke refers to Peter and Hannah getting intimate in a windmill on their overnight date. Another theory is that he ends up with one of his producers, Julie LaPlaca, because she has been seen in the same place as him and in photos with him very recently. It is surprising to not have any “real” finale spoilers yet, as by now it is usually very common to accidentally find out who wins.

I personally would love to see Madison Prewett come out on top; the high school basketball star who met Peter’s parents on the first one-on-one date when they renewed their vows. I also have a hunch that the famous trailer of Peter’s mom sobbing and yelling, “Don’t let her go” is about Madison.

Although Peter’s season is not the greatest that we’ve seen due to the producers’ need for drama, it is coming to a quick end. As the weeks of roses are dwindling, we are left with three girls going into fantasy suites: Victoria Fuller, Hannah Ann Sluss, and Madison Prewett. Will Peter the pilot find love? Probably. Will it last? Viewers will have to wait until March 9 to find out.

The views expressed in the editorial and op-ed sections are not necessarily those of The USD Vista staff, the University of San Diego, or its student body.

VEGANS AT USD

VEGANISM IS ON THE RISE, BOTH HERE IN CALIFORNIA AND IN THE BROADER U.S. ACCORDING TO NEWSWEEK, THE PLANT-BASED FOOD INDUSTRY IS NOW VALUED AT AROUND \$4.5 BILLION AND GREW BY 11% IN 2019. HOWEVER, WHILE PETA LISTED SAN DIEGO AS ONE OF THE MOST VEGAN-FRIENDLY CITIES IN THE U.S., ADOPTING A VEGAN LIFESTYLE CAN BE CHALLENGING AND DIETARY OPTIONS CAN BE SCARCE IN CERTAIN SETTINGS. UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO STUDENTS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES BOTH FINDING VEGAN OPTIONS ON CAMPUS AND THEIR OWN PERSONAL REASONS BEHIND CHOOSING VEGANISM.



Photo courtesy of Sara Anfuso

"Something I have learned during my three years at USD is that as open and accepting as it seems, there are going to be students who will directly vocalize their distaste for veganism and do not let their commentary of your lifestyle put you down. One thing that I do to help me get through all of the backlash of my lifestyle choice is by writing down my "why power," or my reasons for why I am vegan. I taped my "why power" above my bed so when I wake up, I am reminded why I do what I do. It is very grounding and I get through everyday with empathy in mind — I was once very much so against veganism because I thought vegans rejected eating meat in order to make everyone else's lives more difficult. Keep in mind that not everyone has been exposed to the truths that you have. There is a community of vegan students on campus who are here for you and one of the best ways to get involved is to connect with USD's vegan club."

SARA ANFUSO (JUNIOR)
ARCHITECTURE AND MUSIC COMPOSITION MAJOR

"I'M VEGAN BECAUSE IT IS GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, AND IT'S REALLY EASY."

JOCELYN O'SULLIVAN (SOPHOMORE)
ECONOMICS MAJOR



Photo courtesy of Jocelyn O'Sullivan

"WHEN PEOPLE ASK ME NOW WHY I AM VEGAN, I SAY BECAUSE I CARE ABOUT OUR ENVIRONMENT, I WANT TO KEEP MY BODY THRIVING AND HEALTHY, AND I WANT TO BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS THAT ARE TRAPPED IN THE CYCLE OF EXPLOITATION."

—SARA ANFUSO

"I'M VEGAN MAINLY TO BE HEALTHY. I FIND THAT I FEEL MORE LIVELY, MORE SENSITIVE..."

"My experience (at USD) has been positive in the sense that there is at least one thing to eat at every dining location. But this is very limiting and not nutritious. Being that I wish to eat a variety of healthy, unprocessed, plant-based foods, it becomes difficult to have foods that are not soy-based, are not processed, and are fresh."

LUKE LEIDIGER (JUNIOR)
INTERDISCIPLINARY HUMANITIES MAJOR

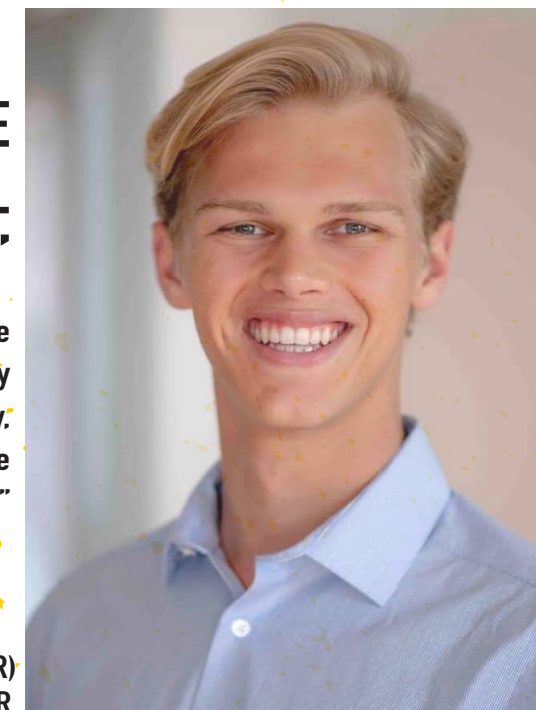


Photo courtesy of Luke Leidiger

"...IN CONTEXT OF THE FRAGILE ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION, FOR ME IT'S COUNTERINTUITIVE TO KEEP CONSUMING ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS DUE TO THE IMMENSE AMOUNT OF RESOURCES THESE REQUIRE..."

"USD could try to create options that incorporate a greater variety of foods that provide essential nutrients for a vegan diet. Whether that be quinoa, wild rice, nut-based pasta sauces, avocados, chickpea pasta, mushrooms, etc. Also, it would be helpful if there were more breakfast options and sauces and vegetables were replaced more regularly at dinner times. Also, if possible it would be very helpful to have more stir-fry stations because the vegan line is often extremely long, which makes getting food within certain time constraints, such as being on break from work, extremely difficult."

VERONICA RICE (JUNIOR)
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS MAJOR



Photo courtesy of Veronica Rice

FEATURE

Sigma Theta Psi welcomes all

Multicultural sorority aims to connect to USD community through its philanthropy

Catherine Silvey
Feature Editor

Mayella Vasquez
Asst. Feature Editor

While Toreros may be aware of the social fraternities and sororities active at the University of San Diego, some do not know about the cultural interest fraternities and sororities present on this campus. Three groups — Alpha Pi Sigma, Nu Alpha Kappa, and Sigma Theta Psi (STP) — make up the Fraternity and Sorority Multicultural Council. According to their joint mission statement, the three groups work to promote inclusion and celebrate diversity on campus.

While Alpha Pi Sigma and Nu Alpha Kappa are both Latinx fraternal organizations, STP is a multicultural sorority, meaning that it represents sisters of many different cultural backgrounds.

Monique Lopez, a member of STP, expressed that the bigger sororities and fraternities often receive more attention and are more widely known by the campus community than multicultural organizations. However, Lopez asserted that the

multicultural organizations have something unique and special to offer interested students.

“I think that at USD we typically see the big sororities,” Lopez said. “Our sorority encompasses the culture that is already there.”

Much like Greek social organizations, multicultural sororities and fraternities often help their local communities by selecting a cause as their group’s philanthropy. As the Philanthropy Chair of STP, Lopez shared that her sorority’s philanthropy is centered around breast cancer awareness.

“My favorite part of being in Sigma Theta Psi is the impact I have on its growth and how I’m getting to expand its involvement with our philanthropy — breast cancer awareness,” Lopez said. “Because we are a smaller organization, it’s hard for us to do all that we want to do. But my mission with STP is to spread breast cancer awareness to the USD populace. This is a cause I feel strongly about and something my family taught me to value, therefore I want it to have a resonance at USD.”

By holding events each semester such as Think Pink during the fall, Lopez noted that another goal of such events is to form a deeper connection with students and faculty.

“My favorite memory of being in STP was at Think Pink, a social we throw to fundraise and raise awareness for breast cancer,” Lopez said. “The day before the event, I had gotten an email from our usual guest speaker saying she couldn’t make it to the event. I was freaking out. I didn’t know anyone else in San Diego who could talk about breast cancer on such short notice. My co-worker pointed out an SLP worker she knew named Elsa. Elsa is a breast cancer survivor and when I got in communication with her she was thrilled to be able to share her story.”

Lopez expressed that this unexpected turn of events made her recognize the impact STP was capable of, and deepened her passion for her sorority’s philanthropy.

“It was the first time Elsa had ever told her story aloud,” Lopez said. “Hearing her story was inspiring and I have never

been more proud of what Think Pink could do. Think Pink gave Elsa a chance to speak up on her personal pains and triumphs and I’m so honored to know this amazing woman and her story.”

Lopez emphasized that alongside the fulfillment she has found leading her sorority’s philanthropic pursuits, she and her fellow sisters have created a place of belonging in STP.

“I found my home with my sisters,” Lopez said. “I can relate to their experiences, I can help them in any way that they need me to, and in the same manner they can help me with all the issues that arise from being in college.”

STP continues to work toward building awareness and exposure at USD, hoping to grow and give more students a place to feel welcomed and included each year.



STP sisters at Think Pink, which raises breast cancer awareness.
Photo courtesy of Monique Lopez

I CAME TO DEVELOP MY
BUSINESS EXPERTISE.
I FOUND MY PURPOSE
INVESTING IN OTHERS.

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ARTS & CULTURE

Alternative spring break ideas

Spring break doesn't have to be expensive or far away when going to school in SoCal

Spring Break from Page 1
Imperial Sand Dunes

Near Joshua Tree National Park are the Imperial Sand Dunes, officially known as the Algodones Dunes in Imperial County. Located near the border of both Arizona and Baja California, the 45 miles of dunes are a playground for visitors.

Senior Claire Danicich visited the dunes her sophomore year on a day trip, and it has remained one of her most memorable excursions.

“The Imperial Sand Dunes were so much fun,” Danicich said. “It felt like I took a portal from Southern California to the deserts of Egypt. I highly recommend renting the dune buggies if you make the trip.” Though not a great overnight trip option, the dunes are perfect for students looking for a day trip to break out of their San Diego routine.

Palm Springs

Palm Springs has been a great option for students who want a week away without having to go too far from San Diego. With a variety of houses available for rent, this spring break option is perfect for all group sizes and all budgets. Splitting the cost of a house rental is a great way to keep spring break affordable, and the amount of options to choose from in Palm Springs means students have the ability to have some say in the cost of their vacations. Additionally, as it is only about a two hour drive away from San Diego, this option is great for those who want to split their break between school and somewhere close.

North County and Los Angeles

For students without cars, there are luckily wonderful

options for travel that don't require having a personal vehicle. The AmTrak Surfliner is one of the best train routes in the country, running back and forth from Los Angeles along the ocean. With scenic views of the Pacific and no traffic, this train makes travel easy. Ride all the way to L.A. or stop at one of the many beach towns along the route, and have a day filled with adventure.

Road Trips

Luckily, if you find more than one of the options above appealing, they can be easily combined into a week-long spring break road trip. Though California is such an expansive state, there are a variety of different road trip routes you can take. Popular among students are road trips up the scenic Pacific Coast Highway to Northern California, drives east to Joshua Tree and the Imperial Sand Dunes, or even across borders to surrounding states.

Junior Lexie Rollings spoke of her own road trip last year.

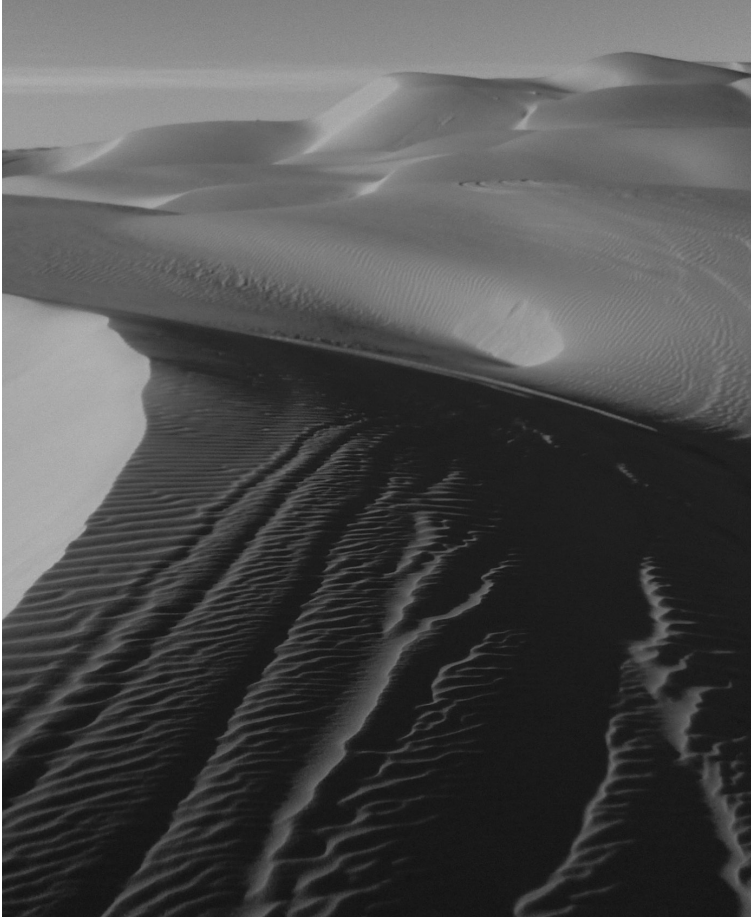
“My road trip last year is my favorite memory from my time at USD,” Rollings said. “My three best friends and I traveled through California, Nevada and Arizona staying in cheap campgrounds and eating over a camp stove. The greatest stop along the way was seeing the Red Rocks in Sedona, Arizona.”

Additionally, Rollings provided *The USD Vista* with an insider scoop, sharing that visitors to Joshua Tree National Park can find free camping just a few miles north. The Bureau of Land Management allows camping on designated parts of their public lands, and though the campsites offer no amenities this spot can be an affordable option.



Junior Lexie Rollings enjoys the scenery during one of her many trips out to the Joshua Tree National Park.

Photo courtesy of Lexie Rollings



Palm Springs, pictured on the right, and Imperial Sand Dunes, pictured on the left, are two examples of the diverse landscapes located just a few hours from our very own campus.

Photos courtesy of Molly Feeney and Quim Gil/Flickr

A Bite of San Diego: Vegan

Following a vegan diet is easy in SD with the abundance of local vegan-friendly spots

Shelby Todd
Asst. A&C Editor

Veganuary may be over, but vegan restaurants catering to this popular new lifestyle are here to stay. San Diego in particular is home to a thriving vegan food scene, with new vegan eateries popping up all the time. In a report by Wallethub, San Diego was ranked ninth among the best cities in the U.S. for vegans. Whether you eat a completely vegan diet or are just looking to try something new, this week’s edition of A Bite of San Diego has rounded up the best spots to get a delicious vegan meal.

**The Purple Mint
Vegan Bistro**

**6171 Mission Gorge Road
#118, San Diego, CA 92120**

The Purple Mint is an entirely vegan restaurant serving Asian food with a vegan twist. This spot is one of the newest to open near campus and is already becoming popular with students. The Purple Mint’s philosophy is to promote a healthy vegan lifestyle by serving meatless versions of classic dishes that don’t sacrifice on taste. The Orange Chicken’s (\$11.50) sticky glaze packed a punch of fresh orange flavor, while the crispy “chicken” tasted almost exactly like the real thing. Other dishes such as the Crispy Egg Rolls (\$8.50) and Yam & Sweet Potato Curry (\$10.95) are equally as tasty and are made 100% vegan using meatless strips and soy proteins. Specialty drinks such as the Passion Fruit Tea (\$4.95) are a refreshing addition to the meal, being perfectly sweetened with fresh fruit. The customer service at The Purple Mint is also top

notch. The servers are quick to attend to your needs, and if you stay long enough, they may even offer you a taste of the special vegan beef jerky they sell in store. The Purple Mint’s roomy dining space offers plenty of seating. The mostly white decor is highlighted by pops of blues on the bench pillows that provide comfort and elegance. Two large trees bring a calming ambiance and nice backdrop for pictures of your meal. The large parking lot outside the restaurant offers plenty of 30-minute parking, but if you are looking to stay longer, plan to leave a little early to find a regular spot during rush hour.

**Cafe Gratitude
1980 Kettner Blvd., San
Diego, CA 92101**

Cafe Gratitude is one of the most popular vegan restaurants San Diego has to offer. This restaurant is all about the dining experience. CafeGratitudeprides itself on food that is prepared and served with love and does so by creating high-quality, sustainable meals. The diverse menu is unique in that all items are named by feelings instead of ingredients. Options such as Ecstatic (\$14.00), glazed brussel sprouts, Awesome (\$17.50), an eggplant focaccia sandwich, and Humble (\$17.00), an Indian curry bowl, are meant to spark emotion and gratitude for what you feel when eating them, and not what is in them. Each dish is packed with flavor and plenty of nutrients. On a sunny San Diego day, the open dining room is flooded with natural light to compliment the friendly service and colorful dishes, making for a cheerful atmosphere. On top of their food options, the



Plant Power’s location near Sunset Cliffs means this spot is perfect for grabbing a vegan meal and eating it by the ocean.
Shelby Todd/The USD Vista

menu includes beverages like Pressed Juices (\$8.00), Teas (\$6.50), and Kombucha (\$5.50). Cafe Gratitude is located in Little Italy and parking can be difficult to find, so plan to leave early to get a spot.

**Plant Power Fast Food
2204 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.,
San Diego, CA 92107**

Another spot is a restaurant calling themselves the “future of fast food.” Plant Power is a plant-based fast food restaurant located in Ocean Beach. This innovative business has brought vegan food into the fast food industry, showing that a vegan diet can be easily accessible and even indulgent. The growing business has three locations in San Diego, including one in Encinitas and on San Diego State

University’s campus. ForToreros looking for some classic fast food fare, Plant Power’s menu includes fast food favorites like burgers (from \$6.95), “chicken” tenders (\$5.49), french fries (\$2.75), and milkshakes (\$4.95). If you’re looking for a healthier option, they also serve salads and sandwiches. Breakfast items like muffin sandwiches (\$5.95) and burritos (\$7.95) are available daily from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. for those getting an early start to their day. Inside, the restaurant is decorated in its signature green and orange colors, with complimenting natural woods. The indoor dining room and outdoor patio are reminiscent of a high-end fast food restaurant like Shake Shack. On top of being an all-vegan menu, Plant

Power’s packaging, utensils, and dining materials are all 100% biodegradable, supporting their goal of creating meals that are good for your body and the planet. The restaurant has a small parking lot, but its main feature is a drive-up option to take your food to go. With the OB location being so close to Sunset Cliffs, the drive-up option offers the perfect opportunity to grab your food to go and enjoy your meal while watching a beautiful San Diego sunset.

**Donna Jean
2949 Fifth Ave., San Diego,
CA 92103**

Donna Jean is a Banker’s Hill standout that promotes a healthy plant-based diet by creating delicious meals that will impress even the most dedicated meat eaters. Chef Roy Elam’s goal when opening Donna Jean was to create a vegan menu that was made for everyday dining, and not just an alternative. Vegan pizza lovers, this is the spot for you. This award-winning restaurant was given the title of Best Pizza in 2017 and 2018 in a poll for Vegan in San Diego. Toreros looking for a simple pie that is still full of flavor should order the Four Horsemen (\$16.00), made with a mouthwatering blend of four kinds of vegan cheese. For more adventurous eaters, the Black Widow (\$16.00), topped with black garlic, smoked dates, and calabrian chiles, is one of the most popular pizza options. If you’re not in the mood for pizza, the menu also includes pastas and salads. The Cast Iron Mac & Cheese (\$16.00) has been highly praised, with the Huffington Post deeming it the “best vegan mac and cheese ever.” Donna Jean’s indoor seating is great, but their outdoor patio, complete with an abundant garden of greenery and strung twinkle lights, will create the perfect setting to eat your meal. If you want to see for yourself if Donna Jean is worth the hype, prepare to leave a bit early to find street parking in case their small, shared lot is full.



Purple Mint’s vegan food with an Asian flare, showcases how delicious and accessible vegan alternatives of everyday classics can be just as appealing as animal-based options.
Shelby Todd/The USD Vista

SPORTS

Toreros begin 2020 season

USD baseball is back and the Toreros are primed for another winning season

Chris Spiering
Sports Editor

San Diego comes into the 2020 season with nothing but a trip to the playoffs on their mind. Despite winning a solid 32 games last season, the Toreros were only able to win 14 West Coast Conference (WCC) games, which put them in sixth place in the WCC standings. Only the top four seeds advanced to the playoffs, and the Toreros missed the cut by just one game. First place Brigham Young University (BYU) finished 2019 only four wins above fifth place San Francisco — a far more competitive margin than it seems.

The WCC preseason coaches poll picked USD to finish fourth for 2020. Gonzaga was picked to finish first for the second consecutive year with 71 points and two first-place votes. BYU (68) was picked to finish second with five first-place votes after claiming the WCC regular season title in 2019. WCC Tournament Champions, Loyola Marymount (65), rounded out the top three with three first-place votes.

USD's head coach Rich Hill is the youngest active coach with 1,000 wins. With 1,034 wins in his 32-year college coaching career, his current 704-499-4 record at USD makes him the WCC's all-time wins leader.

Juniors Adam Kerner and Shane McGuire were named to the All-WCC Preseason Baseball Team, as announced by the conference. It is the second consecutive season both catchers have received conference preseason recognition.

Kerner continues to be a standout for the Toreros after earning All-WCC honorable mention and WCC All-Academic honorable mention last season. The junior catcher made 46



Junior catcher and first baseman Shane McGuire (left) and junior catcher Adam Kerner (right) were named to the All-WCC Preseason Baseball Team.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics

starts in 2019, hitting .274 with a team-high six home runs. He added 12 doubles and 45 hits, driving in 33 runs on the season. In WCC play, Kerner led the Toreros with 22 RBI (runs batted in) and was second with a .565 slugging percentage.

McGuire joined Kerner as an All-WCC honorable mention in 2019 and earns his second preseason nod in 2020. During his sophomore season, McGuire made 52 starts for the Toreros, splitting time between catcher and first base. He finished 2019 with a .325 batting average, recording 64 hits including 12

doubles, one home run and 31 RBI. McGuire posted a .444 on-base percentage and was tied for first on the team with 42 runs scored.

San Diego will co-host the annual Tony Gwynn Legacy event with San Diego State University, Feb. 21-23. Teams participating in the city tournament include Southern Illinois, Arizona, Nebraska, Iowa and Seattle U. USD will face a 2019 NCAA tournament participant in Nebraska on Feb. 21.

USD will welcome an international opponent, Keio

University from Tokyo, Japan on Feb. 27. That is followed by a three-game series against Monmouth University (Feb. 28-March 1). This will be the first time USD has hosted an international opponent for a regular-season game.

The WCC Tournament is scheduled for May 21-23 in Stockton, California.

The season begins with 18 non-conference games and USD will participate in two tournaments before the WCC games start. There are 55 games on the schedule for the Toreros and 26 will be played at Fowler

Park. Eight of their first 11 games will be at home to start their 2020 campaign.

The season began on Feb. 14 when the Toreros traveled to Tempe, Arizona for the Los Angeles Angels College Classic. Teams participating in the tournament include Pepperdine University, University of Oregon and University of Minnesota.

USD lost 5-4 in their opening game to Pepperdine. McGuire hit a two-run double in the top of the ninth but San Diego was unable to complete the comeback.

In game two, the Toreros rallied from a 5-5 tie in the ninth inning to win in thrilling fashion, securing a 6-5 victory over Oregon.

Sophomore DH (designated hitter) Caleb Ricketts racked up four RBIs to help lead San Diego over the Golden Gophers 7-3 on Sunday afternoon to wrap up game three.

Looking ahead:

Tony Gwynn Classic:
University of Nebraska
Friday, Feb. 21 @ 6 p.m.
Fowler Park

Seattle University
Saturday, Feb. 22 @ 6 p.m.
Fowler Park

University of Iowa
Sunday, Feb. 23 @ 2 p.m.
Fowler Park



USD's senior pitcher Grady Miller finished 2019 with a 5-2 record with a 5.72 ERA in 23 appearances. He ended with 34 strikeouts and 22 walks.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics

Earnshaw shines in shutout

USD softball pitcher Madison Earnshaw throws first Torero no-hitter since 2016

Softball from Page 1

she forced 12 groundouts and six fly outs in only 76 pitches.

Head Coach Jessica Pistole was thrilled about Earnshaw's no-hit performance, but also mentioned that she just was doing her job.

"She didn't do anything crazy," Pistole said. "She kept things simple and she pounded her strengths, and was able to trust her defense behind her. It was just her being her. I don't think she even knew she was throwing a no-hitter until it happened."

Because of her dominant performance, she was awarded the WCC Player of the Week honor. She describes what it meant to her.

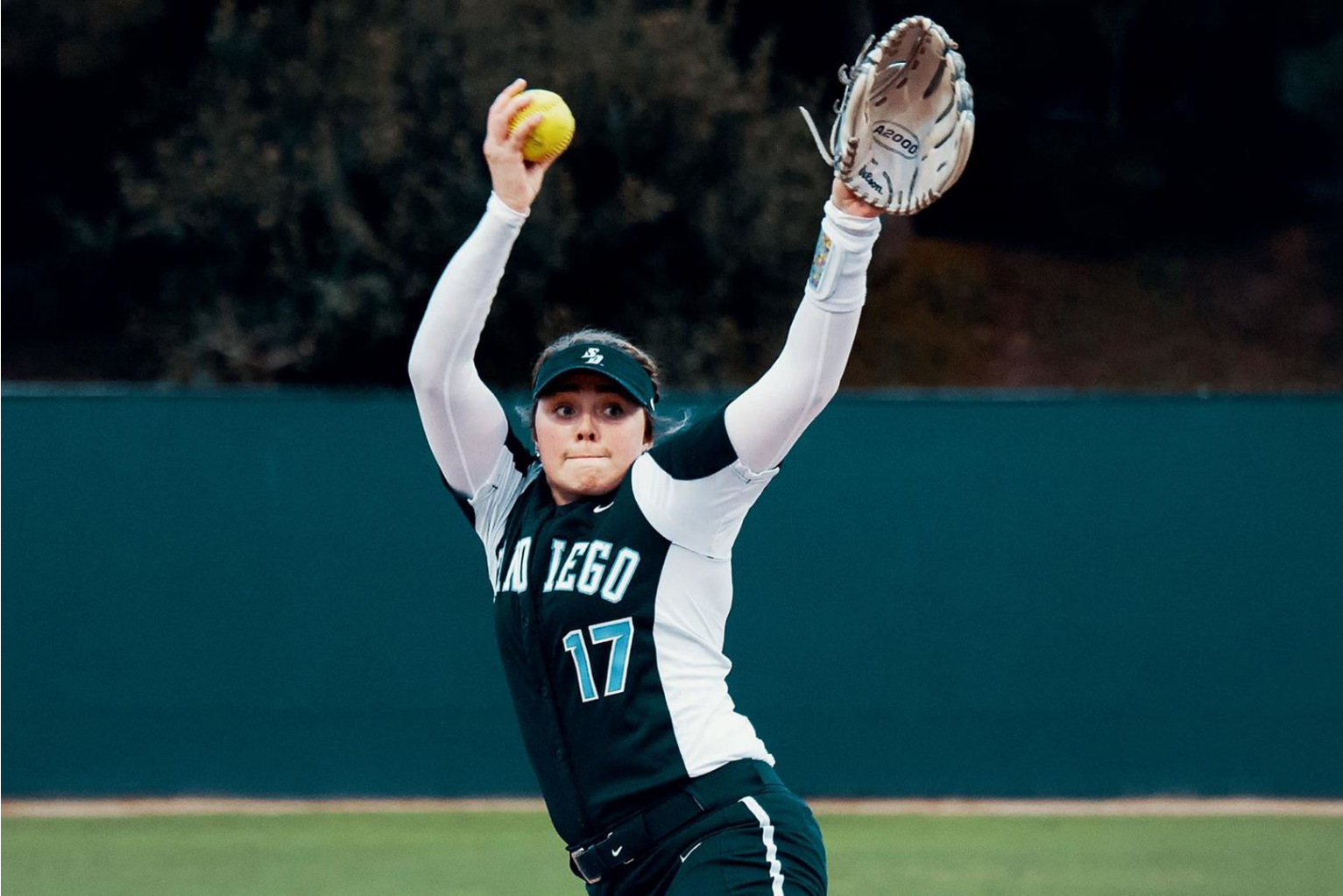
"It's super cool," Earnshaw said. "Every week it's something I strive for and it was a cool thing to earn. It was really special and I couldn't have done it without my defense."

The Toreros hosted a double-header against Idaho State University, Monday, Feb 17. USD won the first game 4-0 and won the second game as well by a score of 8-3.

Senior pitcher Delany Heller dominated in game one by throwing seven shutout innings while only giving up two hits. The right-hander struck out four batters and walked five on her stellar performance.

Offensively, sophomore DH Lauren Hendrickson went 1-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Senior second baseman Sara Silveyra finished the game going 1-3 with an RBI and Kyler went 1-3 with two RBIs.

The Toreros got off to a fast start in game two as they scored seven runs in the first inning to secure a firm lead. Senior catcher Madison Casiano got the hitting started for USD as she



Earnshaw has 18 combined innings thrown this season while striking out six batters and giving up six earned runs to start the 2020 campaign.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics

singled up the middle, followed by a walk and bloop single to load the bases. Junior Haley Hensley was up next and after she hit a ball over the fence that went just foul, she drew a walk on the following pitch — sending Casiano home, making the score 1-0.

Sophomore infielder Kelli Kufta backed up Hensley with a bloop RBI single to left that seemed to get away from the Bengals' left fielder adding to the lead, 2-0. The game escalated when sophomore third baseman Sophia Bjerk drilled a liner to left, knocking in three runs as she trotted into third base. The score was 5-0 with still zero outs

in the bottom half of the first inning.

USD would tally two more runs in the first inning with an RBI groundout by Kyler and an RBI double by Casiano who was thrown out trying to stretch out a

out, Bengals' starting pitcher Mailee Newman was replaced by Kiara Grover. Grover would go on to throw the next six innings for Idaho State, giving up just two runs.

San Diego would tally one

"Every week it's something I strive for and (the award) was a cool thing to earn. It was really special and I couldn't have done it without my defense."

-Madison Earnshaw

triple. The score was 7-0 as most of the fans were still arriving for the game.

Before even registering an

more run in the bottom of the second, as Kufta knocked in her second RBI of the game with a single to center, scoring

Silveyra. The Toreros were off to their biggest lead of the season, with a pleasant 8-0 advantage. Earnshaw was on the mound again for this game and she had a comfortable seven-run lead right away.

It was another trouble-free start to the game for the sophomore, as she retired six of her first eight batters giving up only one hit. The Bengals' offense started to click though, as they would tag on a run in the third, fourth, and fifth inning — closing the gap to 8-3.

It was smooth sailing to close out the game for the Toreros as Earnshaw was replaced in the fifth inning by Kyler, who came in from right field. Kyler closed out the game going 2.2 innings and gave up only two hits and struck out one.

USD improved to 5-5 on the season after the back-to-back home opener victories against Idaho State. Over the past five seasons, San Diego holds a winning record at the USD Softball Complex at 59-45.

After 10 games so far in the season, Coach Pistole likes what she sees from her team.

"They are bought in to what we are doing," Pistole said. "It's fun to see us get a little better every time we come out here. We are getting better every game, with the goal of getting better every practice. It's fun to see these little victories and work one day at a time."

The Toreros are back in action on Friday, Feb. 21 as they'll open up play in the Mary Nutter Classic with games against Arizona State and the U.S. Olympic Team.

The next home game for the Toreros is another double-header against the University of Utah on Feb. 24 at noon and 2 p.m.



Monday's game marked the first NCAA Division I home opener for head coach Jessica Pistole, who spent the last five seasons at Southern Oregon University.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics